

March 10, 2022

Members of the Housing Committee:

Co-Chair Representative Quentin Williams

Co-Chair Senator Rick Lopes

Vice-Chair Representative Smith

Vice-Chair Senator Anwar

I request that the committee **OPPOSE S.B. 292**, AN ACT CONCERNING HEATING EFFICIENCY IN NEW RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR ALTERATIONS OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS.

Freedom of choice; When I am looking to buy groceries, I have many choices to choose from. Places like ShopRite, BigY, etc. I can even choose how and where I want to get a local newspaper. If I do not like a particular gas station, I can choose another one. I have freedom to choose, fly and what airlines or drive, on how I want to go to see friends and family in South Carolina. I heat my home with #2 fuel oil and here again I have a choice. If I do not like or have issues with my local oil heating company, I can look to find another. These are just a few examples of choices I have and can make. What is difficult to understand is why and how the State of Connecticut, through SB 292, wants to control the type of car I can drive, that being electric, as well as dictating and controlling how I choose to heat and cool my home. These are just a couple of the many requirements listed in this Senate Bill. This bill looks to eliminate all fossil fuels, tell people how and what type of heating cooling systems they can only use, what to drive and perhaps when to drive.

This bill is intense, especially SB 4, and is an attempt by big government and its followers to totally take control of our lives when it comes to using electricity in general. Plus, it is a bill that is also intended to eliminate a particular business sector, therefore putting many people out of work. With this bill, citizens of Connecticut will have no choices as it's government will now dictate what you do daily. Yes, electricity is important. Just think about the advances our country has made and developed as a result of electricity, however, to make electricity the only item available and to choose from, for everything we will now do, is turning our State of Connecticut into a State that will totally dictate by law, how and what you do every single day of your life and totally remove any freedom of choices that we can make.

Yes, clean air, water and other environmental concerns are important to all of us, however, we already have and have had, a whole lot of legislation on both the State and Federal levels to assist with this. Why are we now looking at a over kill of legislation? Is it perhaps, to satisfy the wants of a selected group of individuals? There are now great improvements in the efficiency of home heating oil using Biofuel. Additionally, we have oil and gas heating equipment now achieving efficiencies well into the 90% range. However, there is and has been little acknowledgement over the years by both the news

media and a lot of legislators, on all sides of local, state and federal government to inform everyone about all the advancements made with oil and gas heating systems as well as on the use of Biofuel. Unfortunately, we have individuals, up in Hartford, who truly believe that they can get and control what they want by passing various regulation, laws and other ordinances and misreporting the true facts.

Respectfully,

Dennis N. Silvestri.

Dennis N. Silvestri, New Haven. Connecticut S1 and SM1 Licensed Hvacr contractor and Hvacr Post-Secondary vocational instructor.